

Serial No. 09/759,184

**Amendments to the Claims:**

These claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (canceled)

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) A data processing system comprising a cluster of devices interconnected for communication of data in streams, wherein, for at least two data streams to be sent to one or more devices as destination devices of said cluster, at least one device of the cluster comprises means arranged to apply a respective delay to at least one of said at least two data streams in an amount determined by differing signal path latencies for said at least two streams; wherein at least some devices of the cluster maintain a respective table, readable via said interconnection by other devices of said cluster, each such respective table identifying one or more latencies for a respective device, and means arranged to apply a delay operating to apply delays on the basis of table contents, wherein one of said devices is a source device for said at least two data streams to be sent to said destination devices of said cluster, said source device including said means arranged to apply a delay together with means arranged to read data from said respective table of the destination devices and determine the respective delay to apply to at least one of said at least two data streams.

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4. (previously presented) A system as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said source device further comprises multiplexing means coupled with said means arranged to apply the respective delay and arranged to combine said at least two streams into a single data stream for transmission to said destination devices.

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. (previously presented) A data processing system comprising a cluster of devices interconnected for communication of data in streams, wherein, for at least two data streams to be sent to one or more devices as destination devices of said cluster, at least one device of the cluster comprises means arranged to apply a respective delay to at least one of said at least two data streams in an amount determined by differing signal path latencies for said at least two streams; wherein at least some devices of the cluster maintain a respective table, readable via said interconnection by other devices of said cluster, each such respective table identifying one or more latencies for a respective device, and means arranged to apply a delay operating to apply delays on the basis of table contents, wherein the determination on the basis of the algorithm is implemented by the device holding the respective table, the results of the implementation being transmitted via said interconnection to the device reading the table.

8. (canceled)

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9. (canceled)

10. (canceled)

11. (canceled).

12. (canceled).

13. (previously presented) A system as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said each respective table identifies, for its respective device, signal processing capabilities for that device, together with any latency associated with such capabilities.

14. (previously presented) A system as claimed in Claim 13, wherein one or more table entries is in the form of an algorithm requiring data from a device reading the respective table to enable determination of the latency of the device holding said table.

15. (previously presented) A system as claimed in Claim 14, wherein the determination on the basis of the algorithm is implemented by the device reading the respective table, said device having downloaded the algorithm from the device holding the table.

16. (previously presented) A system as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said means arranged to apply the respective delay comprises buffering means.

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17. (previously presented) A system as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said means arranged to apply the respective delay comprises means arranged to selectively apply the respective delay to reading of one or each of said data streams from a source thereof.

18. (previously presented) A system as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said each respective table identifies, for its respective device, signal processing capabilities for that device, together with any latency associated with such capabilities.

19. (previously presented) A system as claimed in Claim 18, wherein one or more table entries is in the form of an algorithm requiring data from a device reading the respective table to enable determination of the latency of the device holding said table.

20. (previously presented) A system as claimed in Claim 19, wherein the determination on the basis of the algorithm is implemented by the device reading the respective table, said device having downloaded the algorithm from the device holding the table.

21. (previously presented) A system as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said means arranged to apply the respective delay comprises buffering means.

22. (previously presented) A system as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said means arranged to apply the respective delay comprises means arranged to selectively apply the respective delay to reading of one or each of said data streams from a source thereof.